

Appl. No. 10/616,146  
Amdt. Dated July 29, 2005  
Reply to Office action of June 17, 2005

APP 1468

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

Claims 1 - 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) A distributed system according to claim 2 wherein to delay answering a call made to a cellular, said system comprising:

means to record a message to be provided to a caller making calls to said cellular phone; and

means to instruct said message to be played to said caller, said means to instruct is being selected from the group consisting of a button on said cellular phone, a keypad entry to said cellular phone, an entry on a calendar, an entry on a clock, an entry into a location device, and combinations thereof;

wherein said caller is connected, said message is played, and, after said message is played, said caller remains connected.

Claims 4 and 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended) A centralized system according to claim 5 wherein to delay answering a call made to a cellular phone, said system comprising:

means to record a message to be provided to a caller making calls to said cellular phone; and

means to instruct said message to be played to said caller, said means to instruct is being selected from the group consisting of a button on said cellular phone, a keypad entry to said cellular phone, an entry on a calendar, an entry on a clock, an entry into a location device, a telephone order, an electronic message, a webpage interface, interaction with a service representative, and combinations thereof;

wherein said caller is connected, said message is played, and, after said message is played, said caller remains connected.

Claims 7-16 (cancelled)

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Claim 17 (currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 16 wherein~~ of delaying answering a call made to a cellular phone, said method being carried out on a distributed system and comprising the steps of:

recording a message to be provided to a caller making calls said cellular phone;

instructing said message to be played to said caller, said step of instructing ~~is~~ being selected from the group consisting of pushing a button on said cellular phone, entering a command using a keypad of said cellular phone, receiving a command from a calendar, receiving a command from a clock, receiving a command from a location device, and combinations thereof;

connecting to said caller;

playing said message to said caller; and

maintaining the connection with said caller after said message has been played.

Claims 18 - 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 19, wherein~~ of delaying answering a call made to a cellular phone, said method being carried out on a centralized system and comprising the steps of:

recording a message to be provided to a caller making calls to said cellular phone;

instructing said message to be played to said caller; said step of instructing ~~is~~ being selected from, the group consisting of pushing a button on said cellular phone, centering a command using a keypad of said cellular phone, receiving a command from a calendar, receiving a command from a clock, receiving a command from a location device, placing a telephone order, sending an electronic message, interacting with a webpage, interacting with a service representative, and combinations thereof;

connecting to said caller;

playing said message to said caller; and

maintaining the connection with said caller after said message has been played.

Claims 21 - 28 (cancelled)